



## *Smog Check Parts Locator Service*

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### **California's Smog Check Program**

California vehicles must pass biennial Smog Check inspections in order to be registered in the state. The Smog Check inspection includes a **visual inspection** to verify that all required emissions parts are present; a **functional inspection** to verify that all required parts are functioning; and a **tailpipe inspection** to verify that the vehicle's emissions are within established standards.

### **What to do if your vehicle fails**

When a vehicle has missing, modified, or tampered parts on its emissions control system, it automatically fails the inspection. Damaged or worn parts may also cause the vehicle to fail. Unless the vehicle is issued a waiver or extension, it must be repaired to pass a Smog Check. In some cases, however, required parts cannot easily be located, and the Bureau of Automotive Repair (BAR) provides a service to help motorists in those instances.

### **The Parts Locator Service**

BAR contracts with the California Youth Authority (CYA) Free Venture program to provide a toll-free statewide telephone Parts Locator Service through the Preston School of Industry. Preston wards help motorists locate hard-to-find emissions parts that are needed to bring their vehicles into compliance.

### **How does the Parts Locator Service work?**

The wards give each caller the names and telephone numbers of three or more emissions parts suppliers that may have the required part(s). If, after the search is completed, the parts are still not available, the ward supervisor issues a "Limited Parts Exemption" which is mailed to the motorist. The motorist then makes an appointment at a Referee Center where the vehicle will undergo a Smog Check inspection. The vehicle must pass *all* other aspects of the inspection before the Referee can issue a Smog Check certificate. Poor emissions levels, improperly functioning parts, or missing parts may be taken into consideration during the Smog Check inspection.

If the parts are still not available at the time of a vehicle's next Smog Check, an additional "Limited Parts Exemption" must be obtained and the vehicle will again need to undergo a Smog Check inspection at a Referee Center.

When required parts become available, they *must* be installed. The CYA program continually updates parts lists compiled from suppliers, so vehicle owners will be contacted when parts become available. After parts are installed, a vehicle must be *recertified* at a Referee Center.

### **Other services**

Preston wards also provide general information about Smog Check and related programs and refer motorists to other agencies for help when appropriate.

### **Motorist convenience**

The Parts Locator/Exemption Service helps approximately 30,000 motorists annually. Without it, many motorists would not be able to repair their vehicles and complete the vehicle registration process with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

### **Who should I call?**

Call toll-free at **1-800-826-3566**.